

Remarks

The title has been amended to be amply descriptive.

Claims 26-27 have been amended and new claims 70-71 have been added. Claims 1-25 and 28-69 have been canceled.

Claims 26-27, 47-48, 51, 67, and 69 were rejected as anticipated by OKADA et al. 6,181,870; and claims 49-50 and 68 were rejected as unpatentable over OKADA et al. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested in view of the present amendment.

The amended claims provide, among other features, that the compression-encoded video and/or audio data file is stored in a unit of a block, and that each video and/or audio data file is provided with at least one map file (contents management file). These features are discussed at page 6, lines 4-7 and page 14, lines 2-19 and shown in Figure 3, for example. That is, at least one map file is provided for each title. Since a video and/or audio data file and a map file are provided for each title, unused contents can be easily erased only by erasing the object file.

OKADA et al. do not disclose or suggest that each video and/or audio data file is provided with at least one map file. By contrast, OKADA et al. provide that a single management file is provided for the entire disc. See, for example, Figure 12A and the related discussion of the management files beginning at

column 25. In OKADA et al., when contents are erased, the management file must be reconstituted and re-recorded on the disc. As the capacity of the disc increases, so does the time needed for this procedure.

The new claims are directed to a generally corresponding method and are allowable for the reasons given above.

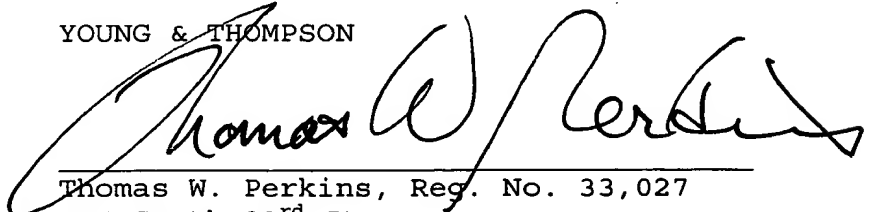
Accordingly, the amended and new claims avoid the rejections of record.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Thomas W. Perkins, Reg. No. 33,027
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

TWP/lrs